patels. It is therefore suggested that such local itinerant traders may be exempted from taxation, the outsiders or foreigners such as Labbes and other itinerant traders alone being taxed.

Reply of Government.—The rules of 1902 provide for this matter and the Deputy Commissioners will be asked to enforce them rigidly.

SUBJECT No. 150.

Reduction of rates of fines in the malnad districts under the Cattle Trespass Act.

Mr. Shop Siddegowda, Manjarabad Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The rates of fines in the malnad districts under the Cattle Trespass Act were enhanced when the coffee industry was in a flourishing condition. Owing to the depression of the industry, the price fetched by the sale of cattle will not realize the amount of fines imposed thereon. The rates of fines as also the feeding charges may be reduced and made uniform as elsewhere in the State, as such reduction does not prevent holders of lands from seeking their remedy in other ways for loss caused by the stray cattle.

Reply of Government.—This matter has only been recently investigated and cannot be revised. The rates are not unduly heavy. They are necessary for the protection of the estates.

SUBJECT No. 151.

Absence of provision for diluvium in Revenue Rules of 1901.

Mr. Sasal Thimmegowda, Tumkur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—In the Revenue Rules of 1901, provision regarding concession to raiyats in cases of diluvium has not been made, thereby causing loss to raiyats. It is therefore prayed that raiyats may be allowed some concession in such cases.

Reply of Government.—Section 47 of the Land Revenue Code provides for such cases. Individual cases of hardship, if any, may be brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner.

SUBJECT No. 152.

Qualifications for the new shekdars.

Messrs. Abdul Khalik of the Chikmagalur Municipal Board, and Ramanuja Iyengar, Gubbi Taluk Members were absent, but Vasudeva Rao spoke.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) It has been ordered that all candidates applying for shekdari posts should have passed the Matriculation Examination. This rule has the effect of debarring the backward classes from the only branch of Government service open to them.

If the Lower Secondary Examination be made the standard for some years more, it would by degrees prepare them to come forward and have a chance to serve until they are in a better condition to compete with those who have had better educational attainments.

(*b*) Requests that particular attention may be paid to the qualifications of nominees for shekdari in accordance with the newly framed rules.

Reply of Government.—No revision of the present order is called for. Government can always deal with exceptional cases in a special manner. The Mahomedan community have had sufficient time given to them and they

must acquire the prescribed qualifications in seeking appointments.

SUBJECT No. 153.

Revised scale of pay to old shekdars.

Mr. Anantakesavachar, Belur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—According to the shekdar scheme we understand that only passed candidates will be given the new scale of pay while the existing shekdars are allowed the old scale of pay with only the allowance. The Government may be pleased to extend the scale of revised pay to such of the existing shekdars who are competent and experienced and who have been discharging their duties satisfactorily.

Reply of Government.—No suggestion is necessary in this matter.

SUBJECT No. 154.

Appointment of literate patels.

Messrs. A. Lakshminaranappa, Heggaddevankote; C. Guru Rao, Pleader and Land-holder, Nanjangud; and G. Subba Rao, Hole-Narsipur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) Nearly half the number of patels in the State being illiterate, they cannot grant receipts to the raiyats paying kandayam. This is a hardship to the raiyat population. It is therefore requested that patels hereafter to be appointed should invariably be literate and solvent in proportion to the jamabandi of the villages to prevent defalcations.

(*b*) It is prayed that Brahmins may be employed as patels as they are more literate.

Reply of Government.—The families of patels must be encouraged to learn to read and write, and a rule may be framed that one or two years hence want of literacy will be considered as a disqualification. The opinions of the Deputy Commissioners will be called for.

SUBJECT No. 155.

Rules to regulate performance of pateli duties by turns among hissedars.

Mr. Ranganaika of Tumkur Taluk

Summary of discussion.—Though there are three or four hissedars for the pateli of certain villages, only the officiator enjoys the potgi. Rules may be framed directing the hissedars to officiate as patels by turns.

Reply of Government.—The existing practice need not be changed

SUBJECT No. 156.

Enfranchisement of shanbhogi Inams and grant of monthly allowances to patels and shanbhogs.

Messrs. Venkatappa, Chik Narayana Reddi and Venkataramanappa, Bagepalli Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) It has been settled that patels and shanbhogs should receive potgi in lieu of miras which they were formerly getting and that they should pay the full assessment on their Inam lands. Such Inams are enjoyed both by the hissedars and officiators. Owing to failure of rain, no crops are raised. The whole of the potgi will be appropriated towards the assessment due on Inam lands. The officiators therefore have to do gratuitous service, which has considerably increased of late. Though full assessment is paid on the lands, the hissedars have no power to relinquish or to sell the lands owing to their tenure being service Inam. The Inam lands of patels and shanbhogs are enfranchised in the British Territory and potgi is paid to the officiators. Pray that similar concession may be shown in this State and the inams charged with reasonable quit-rent.